

## Message Text

SECRET

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53-L

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-10 PM-07 SPC-03 IO-14

MC-02 PRS-01 OMB-01 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 L-03 DODE-00 DRC-01 /130 W

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R 101530Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8050

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION NATO

USDOCOSOUTH

USEUCOM

S E C R E T NICOSIA 2498

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CY

SUBJECT: OSORIO-TAFALL COMMENTS RE NEW ARMS IMPORTS

SUMMARY: FOLLOWING FAILURE OSORIO-TAFALL OBTAIN SATISFACTORY ANSWER FROM GOCYPRUS RE PENDING ARMS IMPORT AND IN LIGHT NEW INFORMATION RE ADDITIONAL ARMS IMPORTS, AMBASSADOR REQUEST AUTHORITY MAKE FORMAL DEMARCHE TO GOC, IF POSSIBLE IN TANDEM WITH UK HICOMM. END SUMMARY

REF: NICOSIA 2465; STATE 235819

1. IN DEC 10 MEETING, UNSYG REP OSORIO-TAFALL TOLD ME HE CONVINCED THA A PRO-GOVT GROUP HAD RECENTLY BROUGHT IN 1000 AUTOMATIC RIFLES FROM SYRIA, AND HE HAD "STRONG CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE" THAT AZINAS INVOLVED IN "UNOFFICIAL" ARMS PURCHASE FROM AN EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRY (HE COULD NOT CONFIRM CZECHOSLOVAKIA). OSORIO SAID GOVT APPEARS "OFFICIALLY UN-INVOLVED" IN EITHER CASE, THOUGH MEMBERS OF MAKARIOS' INNER

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CIRCLE ARE ATTEMPTING ARM PRIVATE ARMIES ON ISLAND.

HE COMPARED THIS CASE WITH CLEAR GOVT ROLE IN 1966 AND 1972 ARMS PURCHASES, NOTING THAT BOTH MAKARIOS AND CHRISTOPHIDES HAVE TOLD HIM IN PAST WEEK THERE NO RPT NO GOVT PLAN IMPORT NEW ARMS (RATHER NAIVELY, OSORIO TWICE SAID THAT ARCH-BISHOP MAY FIND HIMSELF FACED WITH "FAIT ACCOMPLI".) ACCORDINGLY, OSORIO PLANS REQUEST UNSYG WALDHEIM MAKE REPRESENTATIONS TO CYPRUS AMB ROSSIDES AGAINST ANY NEW ARMS DELIVERIES TO ISLAND, FROM WHATEVER SOURCE. (OSORIO ALREADY PLANNED TO BE IN NEW YORK THIS WEEK FOR UNSC DEBATE ON UNFICYP MANDATE RENEWAL; HE HOPES TO SEE WALDHEIM DE 12 OR 13.)

2. IN RECOUNTING ABOVE, OSORIO SHOWED DISCOURAGEMENT AT UNFOLDING OF POSSIBLE THIR ARMS CRISIS, PESSIMISM RE FUTURE OF CYPRUS GENERALLY, AND HIS HABITUAL INSTINCT TO OBFUSCATE THINGS. ACCORDINGLY, I REGARD BOTH HIM AND UNSYG AS WEEK REED FOR USG TO RELY ON IN HEADING OFF PROSPECTIVE ARMS PROBLEM.

3. MEANWHILE, UK HICOMM OLVER HAS TWICE RAISED WITH ME REPORTS HE HAS HEARD RE PENDING ARMS DELIVERIES TO CYPRUS. I TOLD HIM WE WERE CONFIDENT OF OUR INFORMATION AND BRIEFED HIM OF OUR APPROACHES TO OSORIO LAST WEEK. OLVER SHOWS STRONG DESIRE ATTEMPT PREVENTIVE DIPLOMATIC ACTION BEFORE THE EVENT, PREFERABLY IN TANDEM WITH USG. HE IS NOT AWARE OF NEW INFOR PARA 1.

4. GIVEN ABOVE, I REQUEST DEPARTMENT RECONSIDER POSITION STATE 235819 AND AUTHORIZE ME MAKE DEMARCHE TO GOC (IF POSSIBLE IN CONJUNCTION WITH SIMILAR APPROACH BY HICOMM OLVER) MAKING PLAN TOTAL USG OPPOSITION TO ANY FURTHER ARMS IMPORTATION TO CYPRUS, OFFICIAL OR UNOFFICIAL FOR EITHER SIDE. I PROPOSE TO PUT GOVT ON CLEAR NOTICE THAT WE EXPECT IT TO ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR PREVENTING FUTURE ARMS IMPORTS AND THAT IF ARMS NONETHELESS IMPORTED TO CYPRUS FOR ANY ELEMENT GREEK COMMUNITY, USG WOULD HAVE TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY ITS POSITION IN EVENT TURKISH REACTIN A LA 1972 CRISIS.

5. IF NEW ARMS ARE IMPORTED, CYPRUS MAY WELL FACE  
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ANOTHER CRISIS DEPENDING ON TURK REACTION (WHICH IN TURN WILL DEPEND IN PART ON NATURE ARMS E.G., WE WOULD EXPECT MUCH SHARPER TURK REACTION IN EVENT OTHER THAN PE\*SONAL HAND WEAPONS BROUGHT IN). IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR GOC TO WORRY ABOUT THIS PROSPECT IN KNOWLEDGE THAT IT COULD NOT COUNT ON UNQUALIFIED USG SUPPORT IF MATTER COMES TO A HEAD. I DO NOT BELIEVE ABOVE APPROACH WILL NECESSARILY PREVENT NEW ARMS IMPORTS BY GOCYPRUS OR ITS FRIENDS; IT MAY HOWEVER CAUSE

ARCHBISHOP TO SLOW DOWN AND POSSIBLY CUT BACK PLANS FOR EXPANSION OF TRU FORCE AND CONSEQUENT NEED FOR NEW ARMAMENT.

6. DEMARCHE OF NATURE PROPOSED IN FOREGOING MAY BUY US MORE OF THIS PROBLEM NOW AND IN FUTURE THAN PRESENT POLICY GUIDELINES COMPEMPLATE. AM CONVINCED NEVERTHELESS THAT IF WE DON'T ACT NO ONE ELSE WILL. OR, EQUALLY BAD, NO ONE ELSE WILL BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY.

7. I RECOMMEND THAT DEMARCHE BE MADE DIRECTLY TO MAKARIOS.  
MC CLOSKEY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL STABILITY, ARMS SHIPMENTS  
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**Draft Date:** 10 DEC 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Subject:** OSORIO-TAFALL COMMENTS RE NEW ARMS IMPORTS SUMMARY: FOLLOWING FAILURE OSORIO-TAFALL OBTAIN SATISFACTORY  
**TAGS:** PINT, CY  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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